

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: SPC DISCUSSION AGUST 13 ON GUIDANCE TO AHG: DATA

REF: A) MBFR VIENNA 199; B) USNATO 4236; C) STATE 164929; D) STATE

171655; E) STATE 108719; F) STATE 175169

SUMMARY: SPC ON AUGUST 12 CONSIDERED TWO DATA ISSUES ON WHICH AHG REQUESTED GUIDANCE: 1) RELEASE OF DATA OF AIR FORCE MANPOWER OF BOTH SIDES TO

AHG (PARA 8, REF A); AND 2) POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENT ON COMMON CEILING FIGURE (PARA 9, REF A). MIAN DEVELOPMENT WAS SUPPORT BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS FOR NOT ADOPTING OR GIVING OTHER SIDE A NEW FIGURE FOR COMMON CEILING AT PRESENT TIME. SPC

WILL CONSIDER DEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES AUGUST 22, FOR WHICH MISSION REQUESTS GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. AIR FORCE MANPOWER

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UK REP DISTRIBUTED A UK PAPER ON WHOLE QUESTION OF USE OF DATA (TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL). SHE CALLED ATTENTION TO PARA 5 OF THAT PAPER, WHICH SAID THAT ALLIED NEGOTIATORS COULD TELL OTHER SIDE THAT ACCORDING TO OUR ESTIMATES THE AIR FORCE MANPOWER TOTALS OF THE

TWO SIDES ARE VERY CLOSE BUT WITH A SLIGHT WP SUPERIORITY; IF WP DISPUTES THIS, ALLIED NEGOTIATORS SHOULD INVITE THEM TO TABLE THEIR OWN FIGURES. UK REP NOTED UK INTEREST IN PUTTING PRESSURE ON WP TO PRODUCE FIGURES. IF WP DID SO, SHE ASSUMED UK WOULD FAVOR ALLIES' TABLING THEIR FIGURES. BELGIAN REP REITERATED BELGIAN SUPPORT FOR USING AIR MANPOWER FIGURES WITH OTHER SIDE. FRG REP SAID BONN IS IN FAVOR OF FEEDING ALL DATA TO AHG FOR ITS INTERNAL USE, AND DOES NOT THINK THE ALLIES NEED TO DECIDE SO SOON ON USE OF DATA.

2. COMMON CEILING

CHAIRMAN BRIEFED SPC ON MBFR WORKING GROUP DRAFT PAPER ON IMPLICATIONS OF REVISED ALLIED DATA. HE NOTED THE WG'S CONCLUSION (PARA 16, REF B) THAT FROM THE MILITARY/TECHNICAL POINT OF VIEW THERE IS NO NEED AT PRESENT TO ADOPT OR TO GIVE THE OTHER SIDE A NEW FIGURE FOR THE COMMON CEILING. U.S. REP (PER PARA 4, REF C, AND REF D), SAID THE U.S. COULD GO ALONG WITH THIS CONCLUSION. NORWAY, FRG, BELGIUM, CANADA AND DENMARK SAID THEY COULD ALSO. UK REP, HOWEVER, SAID SHE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO AGREE AT THE MOMENT, BUT DID NOT EXPECT ANY PROBLEM.

3. WORK PROGRAM

SPC NEXT CONSIDERS AHG REQUEST ON AUGUST 19. AIR FORCE MANPOWER AND COMMON CEILING WILL AGAIN BE ON AGENDA. IN ADDITION, SPC WILL CONSIDER RELEASE OF LATEST FIGURES (AC/276-D(74)6) TO AHG FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY (PARAS 1 AND 4, ISD/81 (REVISED), WHICH MISSION HAS POUCHED, REFERRING TO PARA 6 OF AHG REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE). BELGIAN REP NOTED THAT PARAS 10, 14 AND 15 OF ISD/81 (REVISED), REFERRING TO PARAS 2 (I), 4 (I), AND 4 (II) OF AHG REQUEST, DEPEND LARGELY ON POSITION TO BE TAKEN BY U.S. THE POINTS AT ISSUE IN THESE THREE PARAS ARE: (1) U.S. AND SOVIET CEILINGS AFTER PHASE I REDUCTIONS, AND EXCEPTIONS FOR ROTATION, REPLACEMENT AND EXERCISES; (2) POSSIBLE CEILING ON U.S. TANKS IN NGA; AND (3) NON-CIRCUMVENTION PROVISIONS.

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BELGIAN REP THOUGHT IT WAS THEREFORE NOT NECESSARY TO PUT THESE ISSUES ON AGENDA AT PRESENT. SPC ON AUGUST 22 WILL HAVE FIRST DISCUSSION OF DEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES.

4. COMMENT

MISSION INTENDS AT AUGUST 19 SPC TO SUPPORT RELEASE OF LATEST FIGURES ON MANPOWER TO AHG FOR ITS INTERNAL USE. RE AIR MANPOWER, WE INTEND TO SUPPORT GIVING AHG FLEXIBILITY ON USE OF AIR MANPOWER FIGURES. REF E, PARA 5 IN MAY OPPOSED USE OF AIR MANPOWER FIGURES "AT THIS TIME". IN VIEW OF WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION OF AHG REQUEST, WE DO NOT INTEND TO ACTIVELY OPPOSE USE OF THESE FIGURES IN ABSENCE OF RE-CONFIRMATION BY WASHINGTON, BUT WILL

REFRAIN FROM ENDORSING THEIR USE IN NEAR FUTURE. RE DEFINITION
OF GROUND FORCES, GUIDANCE REFERRED TO IN REF F WOULD BE MOST TIMELY
IF RECEIVED PRIOR TO INITIAL SPC DISCUSSION AUGUST 22.
MCAULIFFE

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